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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Free Territory of Trieste

DATE DISTR. 19 JUL 50

SUBJECT Maneuver of the Vidali Communist Party to  
Regain Control of the Cooperative Agricole

NO. OF PAGES 1

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ACQUIRED

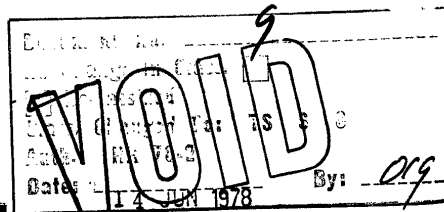
NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF  
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. A meeting of the Cooperative Agricole (Farmers' Cooperatives) of the Free Territory of Trieste was held in the headquarters of the pro-Cominform (Vidali) Communist Part of Trieste on 1 or 2 June 1950. The meeting was called as part of a Vidali maneuver to recapture the leadership of the Farmers' Cooperatives from the Babic (pro-Tito) organization. The Vidali-Babic struggle over the Farmers' Cooperatives has developed into a major issue, the outcome of which may decide the leadership of the Slovene group on the periphery of the City of Trieste within the Free Territory.
2. The meeting was boycotted by Babic followers because it was held in the Casa Portuale and not, as is customary, in the premises of the Farmers' Cooperatives, located at Via Ugo Foscolo 1. The Babic group sent 20 delegates to the meeting, primarily as observers but also to lodge a protest with the Cooperatives' Board against the irregular manner in which the meeting was being conducted.
3. The Vidali group, by refusing to permit the Babic delegates to speak at the meeting, caused a near riot. The principal Tito delegate, Dr. Cok, was forced to leave the hall to escape bodily injury.
4. At the meeting, the Vidali group pushed through the election of a new Cooperatives' Governing Committee. The new Governing Committee is composed exclusively of Cominformists.
5. For the record, the Babic group has taken an official stand and has refused to recognize the legality both of the meeting and election.



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Next Review Date: 2008